Please cancel claims 2-16, replace claim 1, and add new claims 17-48, all as shown below.

1.   (Currently Amended):   A computer-readable medium ~~containing~~ instructions stored thereon, wherein the instructions comprise ~~comprising~~:

~~means for~~ receiving an MBean definition file in XML format;

~~means for~~ generating an MBean ~~.~~jar file from the MBean definition file, wherein the MBean jar file includes a tag for the MBean and a tag for each attribute, operation, and potential notification issued by the MBean;

~~means for installing the generated MBean types into a managed server within a management~~ ~~system;~~

~~means for~~ placing the ~~.~~jar file in a predetermined directory within a ~~the~~ managed server in a management domain; and

providing a custom management capability through the MBean over the management domain. ~~it is to reside in; and~~

~~means for starting the server.~~

2 - 16. (Cancelled)

17.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the management domain is a collection of distributed servers that are managed as a unit.

18.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the custom management capability tracks changes to MBeans throughout the management domain.

19.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein each server node has a MBean server.

20.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the custom management capability provides an API for providing management services in the management domain.

21.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the custom management capability is customized by a user by adding schema attributes and extended persistence features.

22.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the custom management capability is packaged as a framework with multiple MBeans which a security provider can extend.

23.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein a MBean is accessed through a type MBean stub.

24.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein an MBean stub provides a reference to a java object which implements an interface specific to the MBean.

25.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein stubs are generated dynamically at runtime.

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26.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein a factory model is provided for creating MBean instances.

27.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein MBean delegates are derived from an existing MBean.

28.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein MBeans that are declared to be persistent are automatically saved to a repository.

29.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein each MBean is stored in a separate file and is shadowed for failsafe writes.

30.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the tag for each attribute includes name, package, persist policy, persist period, description, and display name.

31.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the operation definition tag includes a sub-tag instance for each argument of the operation.

32.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein attributes for the sub-tag instance are name and type.

33.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein a notification definition tag includes name, severity, and display name.

34.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein a local MBean server handles read attribute requests and MBean creation and deletion requests for server specific MBeans.

35.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein an MBean Server Proxy routes read access to an appropriate server and MBean instance within the appropriate server and routes write accesses to the corresponding MBean instance on the administration server.

36.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein scope of an MBean is a set of locations at which the MBean is available, and wherein an administration server contains a copy of all sharable MBeans located in a management domain.

37.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein changes to an MBean are propagated from an administration server to all servers within the scope of the MBean.

38.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein applications and servers must go to a particular server to read a server-specific MBean.

39.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein all MBeans residing on a managed server are stored in the managed server's local repository in addition to the administration server's repository.

40.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein the scope is specified in the MBean definition file.

41.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein the scope is specified for a specific instance upon creation.

42.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein the scope is stored in the MBean information structure.

43.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein a request for a server specific MBean may be handled by any MBean server in the management domain.

44.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein accessing a server specific MBean is performed through a logical canonical server corresponding to a managed server that the server specific MBean resides upon.

45.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein when a request is received for an MBean not available on a MBean server, the MBean server calls a method that returns a list of MBeans in a management domain or a specific subset of the management domain.

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46.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 45, wherein the MBean server uses user-provided information including a provided object name pattern to qualify a search of the list of MBeans in the management domain.

47.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 45, wherein an administration server contains a list of server specific MBeans in addition to shared MBeans.

48.   (New): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein an administration server handles attribute writes and MBean creation and deletion requests for sharable MBeans.

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